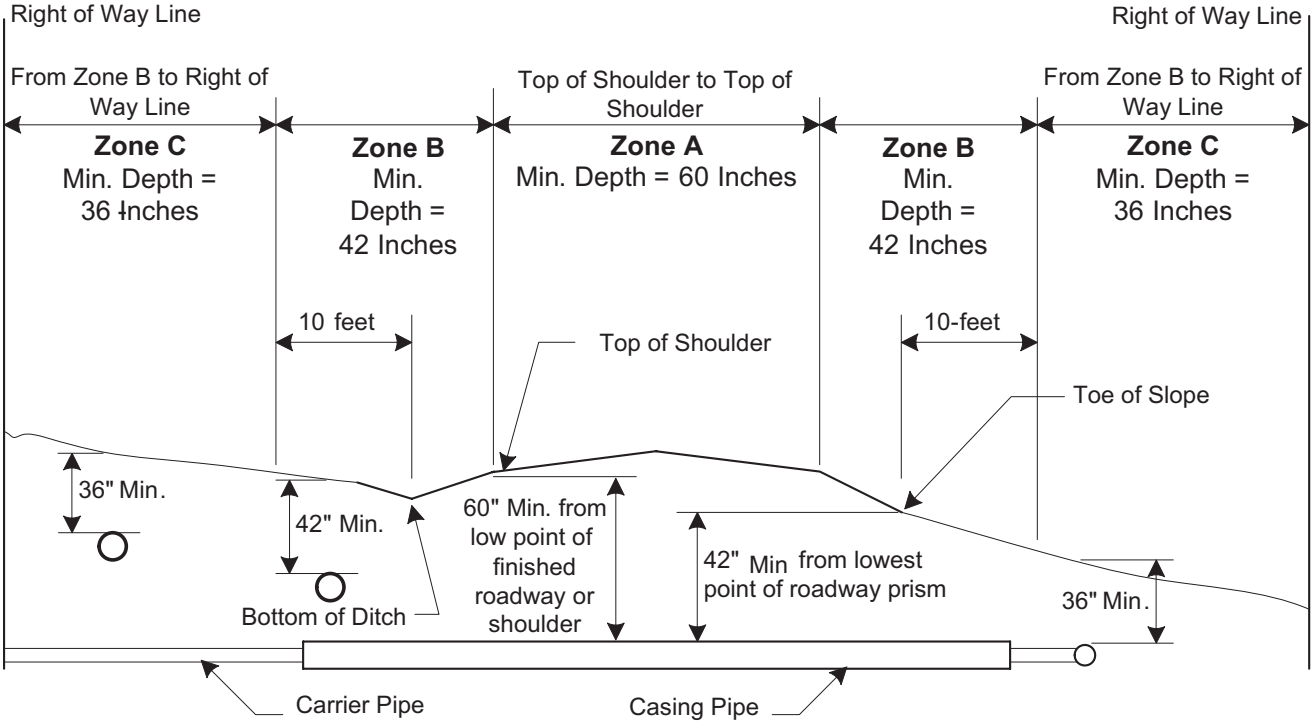
If rerouting is not possible, the pipe should be protected appropriately. (See 120.04(13)(a), Shallow Pipe Installation, for additional guidance.) Utility depths should also consider variations in topography for longitudinal installations. Likewise, the minimum depth when crossing should be measured from the lowest point of the entire roadway prism.



Design Standard for Underground Utility Encroachment – WAC 468-34-200(1)

Minimum Cover Detail
Figure 120-3

WAC 468-34-200(1)
WAC 468-34-200(2)
WAC 468-34-200(3)

(a) **Shallow Pipe Installation**

Utility accommodation applications proposing to install utilities at depths less than those in Figure 120-3, Minimum Cover Detail, are a variance to WSDOT policy. Where unavoidable obstacles do not allow minimum cover to be attained, a new route must first be considered for placement of the pipe. In the event shallow pipe installation cannot be avoided, bridging, reinforced concrete slabs, or other suitable means approved by the department should be used to protect the pipe from operational loading, construction, or maintenance operations. (See 120.14, Variances: Types, Treatment, and Approval, for guidance on justification requirements for shallow depth proposals.)

WAC 468-34-200(3)

(b) **Pipe Cover for Combustible or Unstable Transmittants**

Pipelines carrying material that is flammable, corrosive, expansive, energized, or unstable shall not be considered for reduced cover variance approval. In all cases, such pipelines must meet applicable industry and government codes, standards, and specifications.